Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 02304 101207Z ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6489

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 2304

EO 11652: NA TAGS: ASUP PDIP

SUBJECT: DUTY FREE PRIVILEGES AND TAX LIABILITIES OF FOREIGN

SERVICE NON-DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL

REF A. STATE 183999, B. 2 FAM 243, C. STATE 173492 D. ABU DHABI 2257

1. A. OFFICIALLY, ONLY DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL AUTHORIZED UNLIMITED IMPORT RIGHTS WHILE OTHER STAFF ENTITLED HAVE ONLY ONE COMSIGNMENT OF HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS CLEARED WITHOUT DUTY OR CUSTOMS CHECK. IN PRACTICE, NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES EXIST BETWEEN CUSTOMS TREATMENT OF DIPLOMATIC AND NON-DIPLOMATIC AMERICAN PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THIS MISSION. OFFICIAL EMPLOYMENT BY THE EMBASSY, NOT DIPLOMATIC STATUS, CONFERS THE BENEFITS OF DUTY-FREE IMPORTS. PROMPT CUSTOMS CLEARANCE WITHOUT INSPECTION IS GRANTED ALL EMBASSY, USIS, BUREC AND US CUSTOMS ASSIGNED AMERICAN PERSONNEL FOLLOWING NOTIFICATION BY EMBASSY TO FOREIGN MINISTRY.

B. LIQUOR PURCHASE ALLOWANCES ARE GRANTED BY ABU DHABI AND DUBAI GOVERNMENTS TO NON-MUSLIM PERSONNEL ONLY. EMBASSY PROCESSES APPLICATIONS FOR ALLOWANCES FOR ALL STAFF THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT. AMBASSADOR ALONE ALLOWED UNLIMITED PURCHASES OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. ALL OTHER DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT HOLDERS, INCLUDING THOSE NOT ON DIPLOMATIC LIST, HAVE MONTHLY ALLOWANCES OF DH600 UNCLASSIFIED

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(\$154). ALLOWANCE OF ONE EMBASSY EMPLOYEE WITH OFFICIAL PASSPORT IS DH 300 (\$77) MONTHLY. ALLOWANCE IN FACT IS LIBERAL AS LIQUOR HERE IS RELATIVELY INEXPENSIVE AND ALL EMBASSY STAFF BENEFIT FROM 20 PERCENT DISCOUNT WHICH IN EFFECT SERVES TO REMIT DUTY LEVIED ON IMPORTED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

C. NO INCOME, SALES, OR OTHER TAXES ARE LEVIED ON AMERICAN MISSION PERSONNEL

- 2. NO ACTION BEING TAKEN OR IS CONTEMPLATED TO ELIMINATE MINOR DIFFERENCES NOTED ABOVE AS THEY HAVE LITTLE OR NO PRACTICAL FINANCIAL IMPACT ON NON-DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL.
- 3. RESIDENT-HIRE AMERICANS WORKING FOR USIS AND WITHOUT DIPLOMATIC OR OFFICIAL PASSPORTS ARE NOT OF COURSE GRANTED AKY SPECIAL CONSIDERATION BECAUSE OF ASSOCIATION WITH MISSION. CUSTOMS CLEARANCE PROCEDURE, LIQUOR PURCHASING ALLOWANCE, AND ALL HOUSING RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDING UTILITY RATES ARE AS FOR OTHER RESIDENT ALIENS IN UAE. DICKMAN

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Message Attributes

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